

# ISTHMIAN LEAGUE TITLE RIPE FOR THE PLUCKING, WANDERERS

Wycombe Wanderers 3,  
Woking 0

**THEIR** carefree annihilation of Woking, and Enfield's shock 3-2 defeat at Wealdstone left Wycombe Wanderers sitting prettier than ever before after Tuesday evening's programme.

The Isthmian League's 1969-70 title is now ripe for the plucking. Neither Sutton, nor present championship leaders, Barking, can feel over happy about their situations while Wycombe and Enfield have so many games in hand.

And champions, Enfield's allowance is two fixtures to make up a six-point deficit on the Wanderers, with thoughts of their pending Amateur Cup final to burden them.

## NOW OR NEVER

So, Wanderers, now your goal touch is back, it's now or never!

Top positions after Tuesday, remembering Sutton were scheduled to meet Oxford City at the White House last night (Wednesday) are:

	P.	Pts.
Barking .....	33	47
Wycombe .....	28	45
Sutton .....	30	43
St. Albans .....	32	42
Hitchin .....	31	40
Enfield .....	26	39

At Wycombe, a visiting attack, including the power of Dave Leonard and John McCormack, might as well have gone home for the night.

John Maskell had so little to do for his 16th 'shut-out' in 28 league outings, that he must have been near to freezing-point—particularly in the second half, during which Wanderers' attack churned up the hospital end of Loakes Park to the immense discomfort of the visiting defence.

Woking were both pedestrian and pitiful, refusing to be drawn out from their negative role, even after the Blues had opened up a three-goal leeway.

It was, in fact, obvious from the outset that goals would be a matter of time. Wanderers bided theirs patiently for 25 minutes, and then dished out the kind of punishment Woking's lack of thought and ingenuity had been begging for.

## TONY'S SPARK

Leading scorer, Tony Horseman, who sparked the Wycombe attack back to life at Ilford, after his return from injury, once more started the ball rolling scorewise.

But instigator of the goal was a brightly back-to-form Keith Searle. The former Wealdstone striker, utterly bamboozled Woking's rearguard with a neatly 'dummied' backheel upfield to Geoff Anthony. The little Welshman zoned in, and loosed a fearsome shot which Farris could only half-gather; in stepped half-chance Horseman, and Wycombe went one up.

Three minutes later Barry Baker saw the 'keeper tip his 25-yarder for a corner, but the 30th minute yielded goal number two, following much the same pattern as its predecessor.

This time, Tony tried a shot of his own; Farris covered but dropped it; and Searle moved in to put home his 13th goal for the club.

Once behind, nothing went Woking's way. A substitute was needed for the injured Holder after 34 minutes, and 60 seconds later their right-half, Finn, received a booking following an incident involving Anthony.

## LAST BARRIER

And, seconds before half-time, Wanderers cleared the final barrier to what should have become a second-period goalrush, when a Woking defender failed to clear a Searle cross shot from the left, and Anthony piled in to make it 3-0.

Farris could relax even less after the interval, as Woking doggedly stonewalled their way through 45 minutes of one-way traffic.

Wycombe—somehow—failed to add to their tally. But they did force at least a trio of goal-line clearances from the visitors, who were also thankful that Referee Mr. A. A. Teale had blown his whistle fractionally before Searle had put the ball into their net from an Anthony cross in the 58th minute.

Wycombe: J. Maskell; I. Rundle, C. Gale; P. Suddaby, J. Delaney, J. Lailey; G. Anthony, B. Baker, K. Searle, A. Horseman, J. Hutchinson. Sub.: K. Blunt (not used).